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SUBJECT Josef Stalin Works, Poznan: Personnel/Production/
Working Conditions

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1. "The Poznan plant of Cegielski, now the Jozef Stalin Works, is one of the major locomotive plants in Poland. My information on this plant dates through February 1953.

Management

2. "(Fnu) Barciuk, an engineer, is the general director of the plant. He is a Soviet but speaks Polish. He completed his studies in the USSR. He is a member of the local PZPR organization. He has a Soviet wife who knows no Polish. They have a very large apartment near Poznan Zoo. Barciuk has two motor cars at his disposal. His monthly salary, without premiums, is 15,000 zlotys. Janina Litynska from Krakow, Barciuk's secretary, is also his mistress.
3. "Three more Soviet engineers hold important posts in the factory; one of them is named (fnu) Kosov. They can always be found on the premises.
4. "Engineer (Fnu) Byczuk, chief of the planning office, is from the Ukraine; his knowledge of Polish is very poor. He is about 50. The planning office is located in a separate building in the plant area. Entrance to it is forbidden to unauthorized persons. Other engineers employed in the planning office, are: (fnu) Lokora, from Wilno, a fanatic Communist, (fnu) Liburski, also a Communist (private address - Ulica Gorna Willa, Debiec district).
5. "Ing (fnu) Stawski, in charge of the supplies of raw materials for the plant.

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6. "Other technical personnel at the plant are:
- (a) Engineers Lechniak, Wirkowski, Augustyniak, Wybala, Zbierski, Wieczorek, Tomaszewski, Kotes, Piechowski, Trafas, Zaciski [all fnu]
 - (b) Technicians Balcynski, Kokos, Stawski, (cousin of the engineer), Milnauer, Spychalski, Kazmierski, Batkowiak, Gwierz, Torzewski, Holek, Milczynski [all fnu]
 - (c) In the Foundry Director- Ing (fnu) Chmieleczuk; also engineers Gracki, Marciniak, Kaminski, Brewinski and Lesciewicz [all fnu]

7. "The secretary of the plant CP organization was formerly Jozef Grudzinski, about 50, born in Irohiczyn Poleski, a pre-World War II Communist. His influence in the plant was great, and he had a personal car at his disposal. Suddenly, in January 1953, the workers learned that he had been arrested by the police in the flat of his mistress at Srem. Soon afterwards his deputy (fnu) Szuwarga was also arrested. The investigation showed that Grudzinski and Szuwarga who were both fond of the good life, had defrauded the Party funds by signing falsified receipts. This caused a great scandal in the plant, although the Party tried to hush it up. Workers who were called to testify against the accused were warned not to gossip.

Security

8. "A special police unit guards the plant. Captain (fnu) Linski is its commander. His deputies are Captain (fnu) Bialek and Lieut (fnu) Chow. Lieut (fnu) Pingeryt is political officer and representative of the UB. NCOs of the unit are the Sergeants Wlodarczyk, Kazmierski, Warchowski, Bielinski, Koszewski [all fnu]. There are about 50 men. The unit is quartered on the plant premises.
9. "A policeman is always on guard at the plant entrance gate, along with the ordinary plant guard (fnu) Matysiak. The workers, when entering the factory, hand their identification tags (with individual numbers) to the policeman on duty; the latter makes a note and hangs each tag on the wall. When leaving, the workers have their tags returned to them. By this system, the police know at once of all cases of absenteeism and lateness. Punctuality is rigidly enforced.

Production

10. "The total number of workers at the Jozef Stalin Works is about 10,000; from time to time more workers are hired to deal with rush orders. But production is lagging far behind the plans. In 1952, the factory achieved only 40% of its plans; the average monthly production was 24 locomotives. In 1953 a great effort has been made to increase production. The January production was 27 locomotives. None of the locomotives remain in Poland, all are exported to the USSR or to other Satellites, and also to Communist China.
11. "There are new main reasons for lagging production:
- (a) The poor efficiency of the workers who, depressed by the existing conditions, toil without enthusiasm.
 - (b) The acute shortage of machine parts. Very often an engine is quite ready to be assembled, with the exception of some one spare part which is lacking; then the entire job must be suspended until the necessary part is supplied.
12. "The engines, when ready, are tested by a special commission and then sent away. Their quality is not good. After running a few thousand kilometers they must be overhauled. The plant receives frequent requests for the replacement of spare parts.
13. "To improve production standards the old machines of the plant are being replaced. The old machines, after some overhaul, are exported to [Communist] China. The new Soviet machines arrive from factories in Leningrad or the Caucasus.

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14. "A new plant section, for the production of engines with Diesel motors, was to start operation in July 1953.
15. "The Josef Stalin Works have a large steel production, only a part of which is needed for the plant's own purposes. The surplus is sent to the industrial plants of Silesia.
16. "The plant has a large new press section, for which this electric furnaces were delivered in January 1953. This section will also supply the Starachowice Works and factories in Wroclaw and Opole.

Working Conditions

17. "The plant is operated in three eight-hour shifts, but the workers are overburdened with 'voluntary' pledges of extra unpaid work for the sake of the five-year plan.
18. "About a thousand women are among the labor force. They do the same jobs as men, ~~except for attending~~ the furnaces. They are also assigned to night shifts.
19. "The plant has set up a creche for children from six months to four years whose mothers are employed at the plant. But women leave their children at this creche unwillingly and only if they cannot find any relative or friend to take care of them. The mothers are very dissatisfied with the conditions in the creche, although it is located in a separate small building with a little garden and is equipped with baths and many toys.
 - (a) The food is bad and quite insufficient for growing children.
 - (b) The care of the children leaves much to be desired. In January 1953 two babies fell out of their cots and were injured so seriously that they both died soon afterwards (one baby belonged to the woman called Smigielska employed in the assembling hall). The management paid 300 zlotys to each of the two bereaved mothers, but no investigation was made of the causes of the accident and the creche personnel was left unmolested. Mothers are now allowed to visit their children in the creche three times during working hours.
 - (c) The creche is run by Communists. Both the manageress (Mrs) Jagodzinska (about 48), and the instructress for older children (two-four years) Jadwiga Maslowska (aged about 25), are members of the Communist Party. Not a single cross or religious picture is displayed. When a local Catholic priest wanted to visit the creche at Christmas time 1952, Director Barczuk forbade him to come, stating that the creche was plant property.
20. "Two other installations set up 'for the workers' good' are the shoe repair and tailoring shops which work in the plant premises to assure speedy good service to the personnel. Actually both workshops function so badly that many workers prefer to have their repairs done in town.
 - (a) The shoe repair shop is managed by Bohdan Rutkiewicz. Every worker in the factory is authorized to have a pair of shoes mended once every three months. Tutkowski issues special coupons for this. The price of new soles and heels is 60 zlotys. If a worker wants to have his shoes mended quickly and well, he must bribe the cobblers: one bribe to the man who puts new soles on, and another to the one who repairs heels. Thus the repair costs from 80 to 100 zlotys. The workers have stopped coming to the workshop; in consequence the shoe-menders have economized 65% on repair leather and have received official praise for this socialist achievement.

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- (b) The tailoring shop employs 20 tailors under the manager Jan Biczewnik who has gained a good name among the plant bosses, because allegedly in his work 'he follows the models of Soviet tailors'. A worker can have his suit repaired, or can have a new suit made of his own material. It is generally known that Biczewnik does everything for a bribe. If a worker does not bribe him, his miserable garment waits for repairs indefinitely or another material, of the same pattern but worse quality, has been substituted for his own. However, by keeping all these gains for himself, Biczewnik has incurred some jealousy of other comrades in the Party organization: the workers heard that at a Party meeting 14 Feb 53 a certain comrade Stepkowski announced that, if he were appointed workshop manager in Biczewnik's place, all the bribes would be fairly distributed among the colleagues from the Party, non-Party members having no right to extra earnings of this sort. It was said at that time that Stepkowski would certainly succeed Biczewnik."

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